

SPOKE

Congestoga College, Kitchener

January 22, 2001

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Student sky-high after patch win

By Tammy Somerville

Cynthia De Wit, a second-year graphic design student at Conestoga College, will see her winning patch design launched into space on the flight suit of the first Canadian to ever walk in space.

Canadian Space Agency (CSA) astronaut Chris Hadfield will deliver and install the next-generation Canadarm on the International Space Station during the space shuttle Endeavour mission STS-100 scheduled for April 19.

Hadfield announced De Wit as the winner of the Canada-wide contest open to all fine arts post-secondary students at a ceremony at Conestoga College Jan. 15.

De Wit's winning design was chosen from over 200 entries in the contest. Of the 22 finalists, 17 were students in Conestoga's graphic design program.

"I can't remember how many hours it took, but the night before it was due, half the class stayed up all night to get it done," said De Wit. She added that she did not think she would win because she never received a letter from the CSA indicating her work made it into the finals.

De Wit's design tells the story of the historic mission for Canada when Hadfield becomes the first Canadian to walk in space and it celebrates the delivery and installation of the second-generation Canadarm to the station.

"Ms. De Wit's mission patch is a visual symbol of our efforts and truly captures Canada's achievements in space. It will be my honour to wear it on my flight suit," said Hadfield in a CSA release. "The fact that the winner of the

contest is a youth originating from rural Canada much like myself is an additional pride for me."

These statements were reiterated during the ceremony when Hadfield talked about living in Waterloo Region, getting married and the birth of his son at Grand River Hospital, formerly K-W Hospital. He joked about the name change of the hospital and Manulife Financial, now known as Clarica, where his wife used to work.

Vince Sowa, a professor in the first year of the graphic design program, said over 30 students entered the time consuming contest.

"Everyone got into it. Each started out with 25 concepts and we kept critiquing them as we went along to narrow it down," said Sowa.

He added the graphics design program at Conestoga will get a boost from the CSA contest.

De Wit also credits the program and its teaching staff.

"The program has a good reputation. People know it's one of the best in Ontario and the teachers are great," she said.

"I'm hoping it will open a lot of doors for me. There are not many opportunities to get a job in the field after second year, but hopefully some firms will recognize me and give me a job."

As grand prize winner of the contest, she will receive a copy of her original artwork signed by Hadfield, a signed in-flight photo of the CSA astronaut wearing her winning patch design, an invitation for her and a guest to attend the launch of Mission STS-100 at Cape Canaveral, Fla., and \$500 in cash.



Col. Chris Hadfield and Cynthia De Wit, a second-year graphic design student at Conestoga, unveiled her award-winning patch design for the Canadian Space Agency Jan. 15. The college's graphic design program had 17 students make the finals of the Canada-wide contest.

(Photo by Tammy Somerville)

Conestoga College will also be recognized on the historic flight. The college's Coat of Arms will be flown onboard Endeavour and the

college will receive a mounted collage of in-flight photos signed by Hadfield.

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CSI listens to student body complaints

By Michelle Goring

The Conestoga Students Inc. academic subcommittee has implemented student complaint forms for students who feel they have not been treated fairly by the college or believe their student rights have been violated.

"We've realized recently that there is some dissatisfaction among the student body," said Jon Olinski, CSI vice-president of operations. "What we are doing is offering our services to the students to help them if they are having problems with teachers, final grades, if they are being kicked out of their program, being harassed, feeling they were not marked fairly, if the course outline was not followed, etc."

The idea for the student complaint form originated with the results of the Key Performance Indicator surveys. The KPIs establish benchmarks in excellence at Ontario's community colleges.

According to the KPI results, 33 per cent of students said they wanted more involvement from the students' union to help them with students' rights.

The CSI has received approximately 30 student complaint forms since they became available to students at the beginning of the 2000-2001 school year.

"Over the past two years as vice-president of academics I have noticed a number of students coming to the CSI asking a number of academic questions," said Mike Harris, CSI vice-president of aca-

demics. "They have a range of problems and some feel hesitant talking to a teacher about them where they feel more comfortable talking to their peers."

Students having problems with harassment by college staff, disputes over a final grade, discrimination by college staff, too many cancelled classes and marking biases are encouraged to present their problems to the CSI.

"We can help guide the student through the necessary process," said Harris. "In some cases there is a lot of red tape students must go through to get something minor solved."

"We're trying to make the student feel 100 per cent comfortable going through a process that is 100 per cent their right to do, if they

feel they haven't gotten a fair shake," said Olinski.

The yellow student complaint forms available in the CSI office require a student to fill out their name, phone number, course name and code, student number and a brief summary of the complaint. The student also has the opportunity to provide a description of incidents leading to the problem including whom he or she has talked to about the problem, and any other information the student feels is important.

The student then describes what action(s) the student would like to see taken to rectify the situation.

The form is then signed by the student and the vice-president of academics.

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News

Clow retires with pride

By Kyla Rountree

Andy Clow, the dean of business at Conestoga College who retired on Dec. 31, says his goal is to plan nothing but a relaxing retirement.

Except for a trip to Cuba for two weeks in March, Clow just wants to take it easy.

Clow said he is retiring because 35 years teaching is long enough.

Clow has been with the college since before there was a college. Originally, he was with the Adult Education Learning centre, the college's predecessor.

He started teaching on July 1, 1965.

Clow has been the dean of business for the past two years at Conestoga College and was the chair of business for six to seven years prior to that.

He has also been the chair of continuing education and computer programming at the college.

He earned a degree in economics at Wilfrid Laurier University and began his teaching career at J. F. Carmichael public school in Kitchener.

He taught math and physics to technical students for a year but didn't really care for teaching at the elementary level.

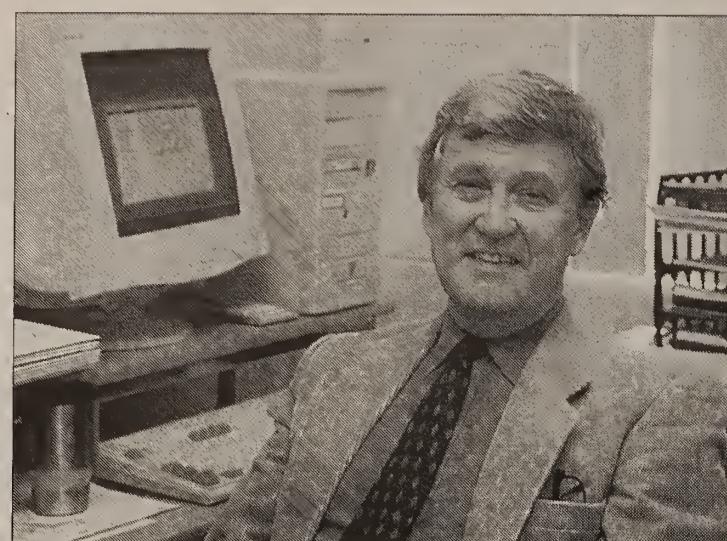
Clow said he has seen the college grow dramatically during his years at the college.

Some of the best times were back at the beginning when he first started at Conestoga.

Everything was fairly freewheeling and there was less bureaucracy.

Clow said he felt he, along with everybody else at Conestoga, have helped to raise the image of the college.

"The reputation of the college has grown considerably in the last few years," said Clow. "I think the



Andy Clow, former dean of business at Conestoga College, retired Dec. 31. He is looking forward to lots of rest and relaxation.

(Photo by Kyla Rountree)

college has adapted well to meet the needs of the local businesses and industries."

Clow said Conestoga produces students who can do the job and do it well. The college is constantly reviewing the curriculum of its programs to stay updated and current, he added.

Clow said one of the worst times in his career was five or six years ago, when over 100 people left the college due to cutbacks by the government in the education system. He found this difficult.

The most rewarding part of his job, he said, is running into graduates and seeing what great jobs they have.

"I'm really going to miss working with the people," said Clow.

Edith Torbay, chair of professional development and quality assurance, has worked with Clow for 11 years.

"It was fun working with him

because he was a very personable man," said Torbay.

Torbay and Clow worked side by side as chairs of the Waterloo and Guelph campus long before each campus expanded.

"We became buddies over the years," said Torbay. "He was someone whom I could always count on. He was a friend as well as a colleague."

Torbay and Clow worked well together as a team and Clow was a lot of fun, she said. "Andy deserves a nice relaxing retirement and I wish him well in his years to come."

Ian Matthew, co-ordinator of business accounting at Conestoga College, also worked along side Clow for many years and said Clow was a great person to work with.

"Clow is an avid sailor," said Matthew, "and I hope he knows he is going to have many bigger bills for his boats now that he is retiring."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To all our friends at Conestoga College,

Mid-July 2000, our lives were thrown into uncertainty with the expectation of our department possibly being privatized. On Dec. 20, we received good news that we would remain full-time college employees.

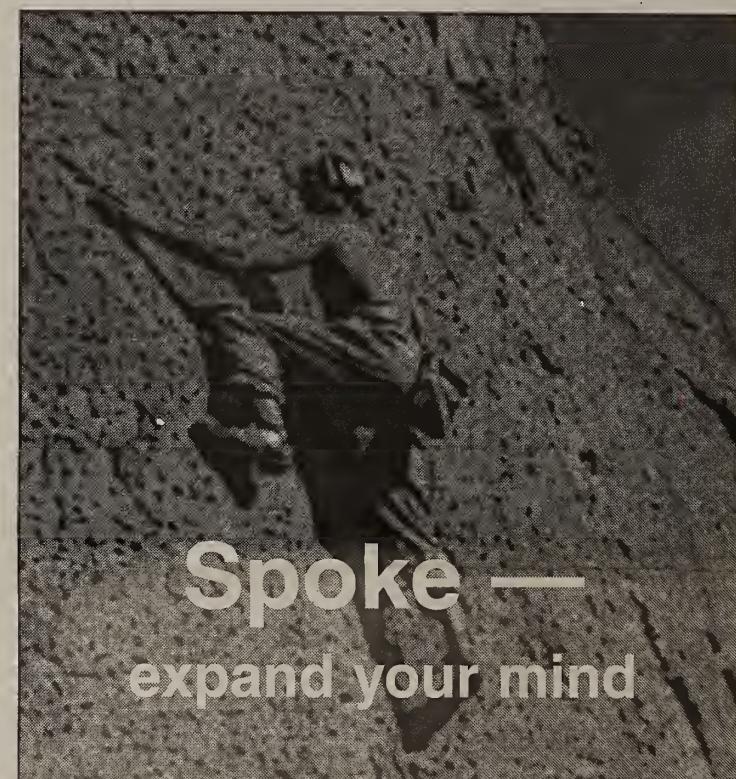
This letter is to thank everyone, too numerous to mention, who supported us during that stressful time.

Many, many thanks!

Ed Kiehl

Kathy McPherson

Print shop staff



Spoke —
expand your mind



Conestoga
College 

Conestoga
College 

Quality Policy

Conestoga College continually seeks opportunities for improvement to meet and exceed the needs of our students, employees and communities.

Car thefts common at Doon campus

By Sanja Musa

The first vehicle theft from one of the parking lots at Conestoga College this year occurred only four days into the new year.

The '95 General Motors pickup truck was reported stolen from Parking Lot 10 on Jan. 4.

Al Hunter, security services supervisor, couldn't disclose the owner's identity for confidentiality reasons.

"The vehicle was taken between 12:30 and 2:15 p.m.," said Hunter.

"We called the Waterloo regional police and thoroughly inspected the surroundings of the college to make sure the vehicle wasn't left close to the college."

To Hunter's knowledge, the truck hasn't been recovered.

The Waterloo regional police said they couldn't disclose any information about the investigation for security and confidentiality reasons.

Unfortunately, Hunter said, vehicle thefts are not rare occurrences

at the college.

The last theft to occur last year took place on Oct. 31. In total, there were eight cars stolen from the college parking lots in 2000.

Hunter said the most frequently stolen vehicles are pickup trucks.

"I think there is a market for these vehicles, which are being stripped and sold in Ontario or taken out of the province."

Hunter has also noticed that the main problem areas seem to be parking lots 10 and 12.

"I think a part of the reason is convenience. These parking lots are close to Highway 401," he said.

However, Hunter emphasized security services is doing their best to prevent the thefts.

He said a possible solution for the problem could be greater control of access to the parking lots and an increased awareness among the owners of the vehicles.

A great help in preventing even larger numbers of vehicle thefts has been the WalkSafe program, Hunter added.

Snow causes problems in college's parking lots

By Sanja Musa

Security services at Conestoga College is facing a series of issues related to the improper parking and bad road conditions caused by snow.

"We have a number of new students at the college who are not particularly aware of the parking regulations," says Al Hunter, security services supervisor. "It causes a number of issues."

Triple-parked vehicles are the first issue.

"Obviously, the person in the middle can't get out of the parking lot, unless someone else moves," Hunter said.

While this doesn't present a huge issue to some drivers, to others it means they can't pick up their children on time from child care services or they can't get to their jobs on time.

As a solution to this problem, Hunter suggested students and faculty should take a few extra minutes

utes when they are parking their vehicles.

"If you see you're blocking someone, you obviously shouldn't park your vehicle there," he said.

The second issue is caused by the bad winter road conditions.

"We have special problems during the wintertime," he said. "The parking lines which divide spaces on the parking lots are not always visible because of the snow."

However, there are posts at the end of the lines that indicate where drivers should park if the lines are not visible, Hunter added.

He also said some of the drivers who parked their vehicles off the parking lots and on the grassy areas complained about the bad conditions on the parking lots.

"These drivers actually had to go over the curb to park," Hunter said. "Obviously, we don't want them to park there for a couple of reasons. Firstly, it is improper parking. Secondly, they may damage their vehicles."

Guaranteed confidentiality for CSI complaint forms

Continued from Page 1

After a complaint form is completed, the CSI will investigate the student's complaint and make sure it is valid.

According to Harris, there is a screening process to weed out unwarranted complaints.

Students who fill out a student complaint form are guaranteed confidentiality by the CSI throughout the process.

The CSI will then write a letter to the person mentioned in the complaint and a copy of the letter is

sent to that person's superior.

Harris said in one instance an entire class filled out student complaint forms complaining about a class that had had a number of cancellations due to a teacher's absence. In this case, he wrote a letter to the president of the college.

"The president of the college must be aware that there are things going down at this end of the campus that we're just not going to tolerate," Harris said. "We want to make people accountable."

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: Study Skills

Knowing how to study efficiently does not always come naturally. Students who want to learn and who are eager to do well in college do not always know what to do. Many students do not know how much to study or how to use their time wisely. They may not know how to read college-level textbooks. Absorbing and remembering information from lectures can be difficult, especially if they are not familiar with the lecture style of teaching.

Many potentially good students lack basic skills. They may not be able to read well enough for college-level material, or have vague notions about English grammar. Many students have difficulty writing their ideas clearly.

To meet these challenges, Student Services offers several study skill workshops to help students gain the skills they need to succeed. Good study habits allow us to work more efficiently. Students who have been taught study methods get better grades with fewer hours of study. It is not how much you study but how well.

When should you seek help with study skills?

- ◆ When you feel overwhelmed.
- ◆ When you want to reduce your study time.
- ◆ When you feel disorganized.
- ◆ When too many distractions reduce your concentration.
- ◆ When you want to take better notes and read more effectively.
- ◆ When exams approach.
- ◆ Anytime!

A Message from Student Services (Room 2B02)



ATTENTION ALL 2ND & 3RD YR. STUDENTS

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

TUTORS CURRENTLY REQUIRED FOR SEVERAL COURSES

QUALIFICATIONS

- SECOND OR THIRD YEAR STUDENT - PREVIOUS POST SECONDARY EXPERIENCE MAY QUALIFY
- 75% OVERALL PROGRAM AVERAGE, 80% IN COURSE TUTORED
- RECOMMENDATION BY FACULTY
- STRONG COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- ENJOY WORKING WITH PEOPLE

BENEFITS

- \$10.50 HOURLY WAGE
- FLEXIBLE HOURS
- EXCELLENT REVIEW OF COURSE MATERIAL
- BUILD MEANINGFUL PEER RELATIONSHIPS
- INCREASE SELF CONFIDENCE AND ESTEEM
- GREAT ADDITION TO A RESUME

FURTHER INFORMATION/APPLICATIONS
AVAILABLE IN STUDENT SERVICES ROOM 2B02



Bouchard's departure should unite Canadians

With the resignation of Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard Jan. 11, questions arise as to where do we as a country go from here.

Bouchard was emotional during his farewell. His reasons were his failure to find the key that could open the door to Quebec independence, conflict with Parti Quebecois language radicals and his family.

He acknowledges that less than 50 per cent of Quebecers are ready to vote in another referendum to kill the Canadian federation.

The Parti Quebecois leader admitted that he failed to achieve sovereignty for Quebec or rally francophones to support independence during his five years as premier.

But what's next? Who's next?

The two likely candidates considered to replace Bouchard, Deputy Premier Bernard Landry and Health Minister Pauline Marois, are considered hard-line separatists. Although Bouchard's departure is praised by some in Ottawa and is considered a huge blow to separatism, the mood is not too celebratory when uncertainty rules the air.

Can a new PQ leader rekindle enthusiasm for Quebec sovereignty? Can we as a country of Canadians, and that is what we all are, move forward and grow from what we have learned?

Jean Chretien and the Liberals won their third-straight majority in November's federal election, increasing their popularity in the unlikely province of Quebec and setting back the PQs, but Prime Minister Jean Chretien is being tight lipped.

With all of the battles fought over separatism between himself and Bouchard, one would think Chretien would have more to say on the direction for the country. As leader of Canada, he is the one who is supposed to guide us. Instead he is celebrating his 67th birthday in Florida.

According to the Kitchener Record, Chretien has only made one brief statement.

"Our views of the future of Quebec and Canada were fundamentally irreconcilable," said Chretien.

This does not leave the citizens of Canada feeling anymore secure in their vote for the prime minister's promises of national unity he campaigned on last year.

Bouchard, who at times has been the most popular Quebec premier, never found the "winning conditions" for a sovereignty referendum that he was looking for since January 1996 when he was sworn in as premier, two days after winning the PQ leadership by acclamation.

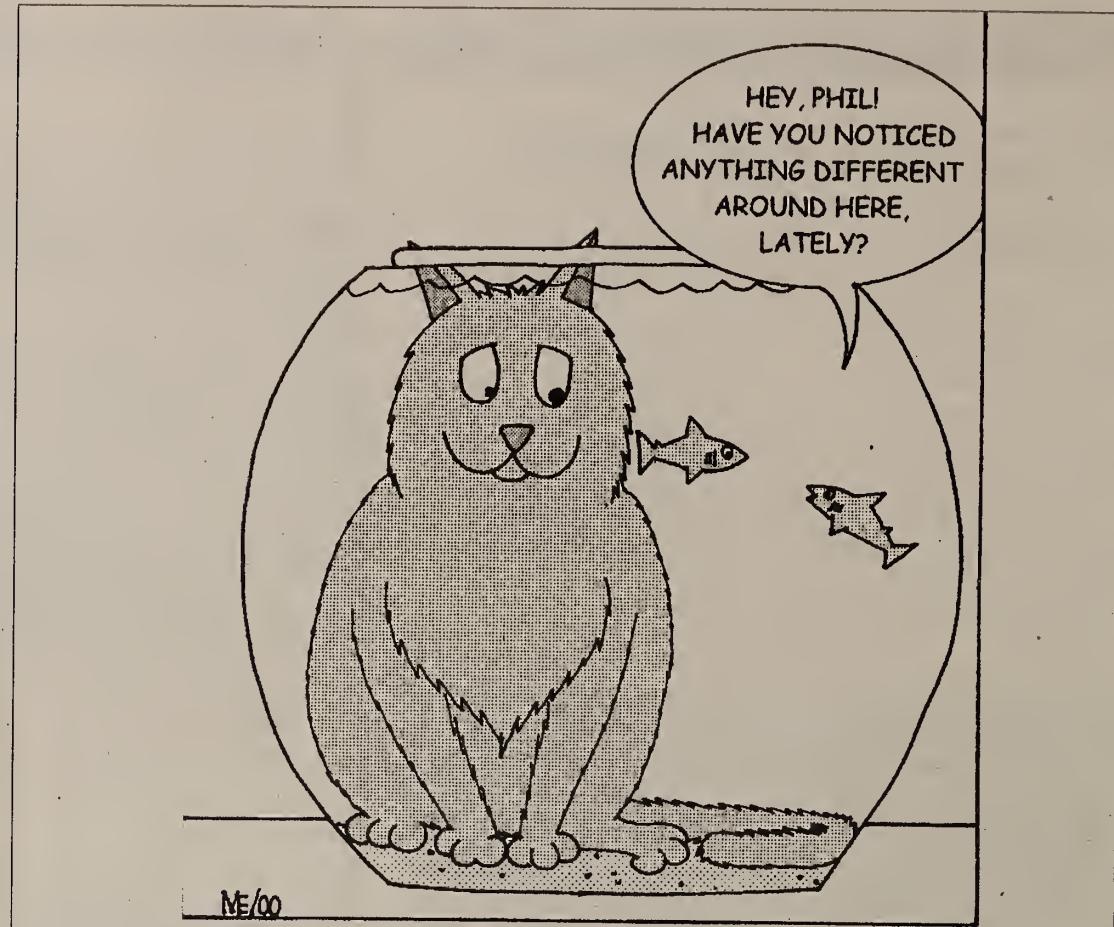
But, what does that mean for Canada and where do we go from here?

Our country needs to look to the future. We need to look at the issues that have been ignored for more than a decade because of the threat of separatism.

There are more homeless people than ever living on the streets, even though our country is thriving. Child poverty has hit an all time high, as every level of government sweeps it under the rug or passes the buck. Canada's image of being one of the most environmentally friendly countries in the world is diminished as each year passes and the cost of post-secondary education has almost doubled in the last 10 years.

Bouchard is gone. Someone may become premier of Quebec who is a hard-line separatist, but we have to stand firm, show a united front as a country. Let every Quebec citizen know that we want Quebec to remain in Canada. Quebec is part of our country. It has its problems, but Canada is the greatest country in the world. Few can name other countries where they would rather live.

It is time for all Canadians to look at the issues that are important to everyone. We need to put the past behind us and create a united front so when the next sovereignty-praising politician wants us to lend our ear, we can say we have better things to listen to. We want to listen for Canada, all of it.



Extracurricular activities should return

By Derek Lester

Because extracurricular activities have been cut at the high school level, teenagers are losing opportunities for exercise and social activity.

High school students are also missing out on great chances to meet new friends and learn about teamwork by not being part of an after-school club or sports team.

Some high schools in Ontario have been without extracurricular activities for three years. The students at those schools are missing out on a chance to achieve athletic scholarships that would certainly help their chances of getting into a good university and help with financing their education.

Extracurricular activities allow some students to travel to another province and even another country.

The Kitchener Record reported that in Waterloo Region it was estimated that extracurricular activities in high schools are running at about 50 per cent of past levels.

High school teachers are not supervising extracurricular activities this year because teachers are sharing an extra class that they have to

teach every other day, and they don't have time to help a club or team.

The Ontario government passed Bill 74, extending teaching hours, and threatened to make extracurricular activities mandatory.

Taking part in extracurricular activities at high school is some of the most fun students have in their high school years.

Students join clubs and teams because they like to do the activity. So, obviously they will have fun, or they wouldn't have signed up in the first place.

How can the teachers take away something from the students when they are supposed to be helping the students along in life, not hurting them?

Some teachers at high schools would like to be involved in extracurricular activities because it brings out the competitiveness still inside of them.

Not having their team to coach is just as much a punishment for them as it is for the students.

When I was in high school, our junior and senior bands were both good and won many awards.

In Grade 9, some of my friends got to go to Calgary for a competition and in Grade 10 they went to Toronto. In Grade 11, they went all the way to England, not for a competition, but just to play their music.

Imagine what an experience it

would be to get to travel to Calgary and England. They said they had a great time, which is probably an understatement.

It is a real shame that extracurricular activities have been cut because students are missing out on social skills like teamwork that are needed in the world today.

Those band trips have created memories for those students that will last a lifetime.

A lot of students don't get a chance to travel because they can't afford to. Extracurricular activities allowed some students to travel to another province and even another country.

High school students these days will miss out on all of those fun, exciting times if extracurricular activities do not start up again.

It is a real shame that extracurricular activities have been cut because students are missing out on social skills like teamwork that are needed in the world today.

The high school teachers should think about the students and help with extracurricular activities again.

SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

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Professor credits college for career

By Tammy Somerville

A professor of criminology at Conestoga College on leave since 1997 has become director of the prisons department in Nicosia, Cyprus.

Harry Stavrou went to Cyprus to teach at their police academy after four years at Conestoga. After getting bored teaching, he became a police officer and later moved to police headquarters where he set up an organized crime department. A year ago he accepted the job as chief governor and has now risen to a position equivalent to Canadian commissioner of corrections, who runs the federal prisons in Canada.

Accountable only to the minister of justice and public order in Cyprus, Stavrou is responsible for governing and directing six prisons, as well as the care, health and welfare of the current Cypriot prison population of 290 men and 10 women.

In an August 2000 article in *The Weekly Review* magazine, Stavrou, who was born in Cyprus, said he had always wanted to return to Cyprus if he could do so with a set objective that would contribute to his country and put into action all that he had experienced.

"I do not see myself as a mere gatekeeper, just as I do not see prisons as penal dustbins where people are discarded by society to sink or swim under an unhealthy regime and after they have served their time here, they are released into the world as ill-equipped to deal with it

as they were the day they were sentenced," said Stavrou.

His role as prison director is to aim for a healthy prison where prisoners feel safe and are treated with respect. The prisoners are encouraged to improve their readiness for release and to keep up contact with their families.

His role as prison director is to aim for a healthy prison where prisoners feel safe and are treated with respect.

Stavrou said his criminology and law enforcement education, which began at Conestoga in 1973, gave him the skills to take on his new role.

"The criminology program teaches you among other things about the penal system. You get all the practical components. This is where I got my formal education in criminology," said Stavrou.

In the courses he taught at Conestoga before his leave, justice systems and criminology, Stavrou said the curriculum included why people offend and why they are arrested, taken to court and then convicted. He has been using skills like policing, investigation and public relations he learned in the Conestoga program.

"My background in criminology studies certainly helped me get me where I am. All material here is in

an applied manner, which enabled me to use it in implementation."

Stavrou spoke highly of Conestoga, citing Don Douglas, co-ordinator of the police foundations and LASA programs, as an exemplary teacher. Stavrou said Douglas helped him adjust to Canadian culture and the English language when he came to Canada to enroll in the program.

"Don helped me a lot because I could barely understand the language. Everything was so foreign and it was the beginning of the hippie era," said Stavrou.

Douglas, who taught Stavrou over 30 years ago, said he was a solid, very no-nonsense guy.

"He was there to complete his work, fun was secondary," said Douglas.

Stavrou began his career serving the mandatory two years of military service in Cyprus. Stavrou said he chose his career path after a future careers course in the seventh grade.

"They took us to different areas such as the manufacturing sector and the government sector. I remember when they took us to the Cyprus police-training academy and we went through a small museum and the tools of the trade fascinated me," said Stavrou.

He left when he was 19 years old to come to Canada when he began his studies at Conestoga. Stavrou went on to get his bachelor of arts in deviant behaviour at Sir Wilfrid Laurier University and a master's degree in political science at



Harry Stavrou, a criminology professor currently on leave from Conestoga College, speaks highly of the school where he began his formal training. Stavrou, who has just accepted the position of director of the prisons department in Nicosia, Cyprus, was visiting his family and the college Jan. 11. (Photo by Tammy Somerville)

University of Waterloo.

After successfully attaining his degrees, he joined the armed forces working in security intelligence, specializing in anti-terrorism.

Stavrou said he doesn't have any

set plans for the future, but he does miss teaching at Conestoga College.

"I miss teaching the large classes, the interaction with the students, but I still teach there (in Cyprus) at the police academy."

Eye on the ball



Mike Fthenos, a third-year computer programming student, said he practically lives in the Sanctuary at Conestoga College's Doon campus. He enjoys hanging out with friends and beating his pals at pool. Fthenos was Conestoga's pool champion for the past two years.

(Photo by Tammy Somerville)

Historic space walk for Canadian astronaut

Continued from Page 1

The CPA invited all students enrolled in a Canadian university or community college in a fine art course on Oct. 29, 1999, to participate by designing a patch to be worn by Hadfield.

The criteria for the project was to include the words STS-100, Hadfield's name and the Canadian flag or the maple leaf. The patch design also had to reflect the participants' awareness and understanding of the Canadian content of the mission.

De Wit said she did research on what the mission was about and included it with the required elements.

Canada is one of the international partners working with the U.S., Russia, Japan, 11 other nations and members of the European Space Agency in the construction of the International Space Station, the largest engineering project ever undertaken.

Once completed, the station will cover an area as large as a football field and weigh 450 tons. Visible to the naked eye, it regularly flies over Canada, orbiting at an average altitude of 400 kilometres. It is also the brightest man-made object in the sky since the installation of solar panels by Canadian astronaut



Col. Chris Hadfield will become the first Canadian to walk in space April 19.

Marc Garneau in December last year.

Canada's contribution to the station, the Mobile Servicing System (MSS), is made up of three elements: a next-generation Canadarm, the Space Station Remote Manipulator System (SSRMS); a smaller, detachable two-armed robot, the Special Purpose Dextrous Manipulator (SPDM), that can be placed on the end of the SSRMS to perform delicate operations; and the Mobile Remote Service Base System, a movable platform for the robotic arm and the SPDM, which will slide along rails located on the space station's main structure to transport the arm to various points on the station.

The MSS is essential to the ISS, as it is needed to continue the assembly of the space station and to maintain the facility during its 10-year planned life.

The 17-metre-long SSRMS arm is more sophisticated and more versatile and will assist astronauts in assembling, inspecting and repairing the station. It will also assist in conducting ongoing operations and transporting equipment and supplies.

In order to reach all areas of the station to perform its critical tasks, the arm features an innovative technology: it is able to relocate itself to different points on the station by detaching itself from its base and flipping end-over-end.



Cynthia De Wit's winning patch will be worn by Hadfield during the space shuttle Endeavour mission STS-100.

Conestoga College cartoonist's publishing dreams come true

By Reni Nicholson

A dream was fulfilled for Jeff Atchinson, dining room manager and part-time instructor at Conestoga College's Waterloo campus, when Spoke agreed to publish his cartoons on the editorial page of the newspaper.

Atchinson has been with the college for one year as an instructor in the food and beverage management program and had his first cartoon published in Spoke on Dec. 11, in time to meet his personal agenda of having a cartoon published within a year.

"Cartooning has always been a hobby and if it can turn into something else, that's even better," says Atchinson who plans to draw a cartoon for each edition of Spoke.

He has always had an interest and many ideas for cartooning, but sitting down and inking a drawing is new for him.

The ideas, he said, come when he's doing mindless things such as having a shower, folding the laundry or even sometimes while he's giving a lecture.

"The text-based idea comes first

and the drawing falls into place afterwards," he said.

Atchinson won first place in last month's New Yorker on-line magazine caption contest.

Unlike what he is used to, the New Yorker gives the drawing first and the contestant is asked to create a caption to go along with it.

In the previous contest he placed second and intends to enter this month's contest.

Atchinson plans to produce drawings for Spoke that are topical to the average student's point of view.

"Their concerns are different than a mainstream newspaper's editorial page," he said. "The Spoke reader is different than the New Yorker reader."

He said sometimes the idea for a cartoon comes before the market presents itself, so he plans to look, after the Christmas holidays, for different markets in which to have his cartoons published.

There are many different ways to draw a cartoon, said Atchinson. He has been doing a lot of research on techniques in search of his own voice as an artist. One method he

favours is allowing things to flow freely in a process of stream-of-consciousness doodling.

"That's the active way of getting ideas and the inactive way would be in the shower, for example," he said.

Often times, he said he needs to let the idea mull around in his head and before he knows it, the idea has formed itself.

Cartoonists such as Gary Larson, creator of The Far Side, and Bill Watterson, inventor of Calvin and Hobbes are Atchinson's role models.

The "subtle, but clever sarcasm" in these strips is a style admired by Atchinson.

"The cartoon or strip doesn't necessarily have to be funny, but the goal is to bring topical issues to the forefront in a non-confrontational way."

Atchinson said a misconception in cartooning is that much research is not required.

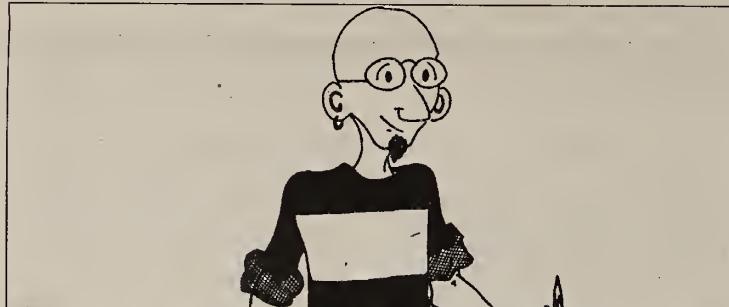
"If the subject is topical and timely, it's best to get the facts straight before sitting down to draw. The more you know about the topic, the better the cartoon will be."



Jeff Atchinson, dining room manager and part-time instructor for the food and beverage management program at Waterloo campus, is fulfilling his goal of having his cartoons published.

(Photo By Reni Nicholson)

First-year journalism student turns cartoons into a real opportunity



First-year journalism student Marc Hulet was a little shy of the camera, so he did a drawing of himself. He has been drawing cartoons since he was six years old.

By Derek Lester

Conestoga College student Marc Hulet has been drawing cartoons since he was six years old, and like the energizer bunny, he just keeps going and going.

Hulet started drawing at a young age because his mother wanted him to draw his own pictures and colour them, rather than colouring pictures in a colouring book.

The first time Hulet can remember drawing a cartoon strip was in Grade 3. The class had to make up stories, put them in a book and draw pictures for them.

"I ended up doing a Transformer cartoon strip and

I think my mom still has it," he said.

The first-year journalism student said he has always had an interest in drawing. Although he applied to and was accepted at some universities in art, he decided to keep his drawing as a hobby for now.

"I did take one university art course at one point and I found the people in it were a little bit stereotypical, like you see in the movies, very pompous about their work and it kind of ruined it for me as far as school goes."

Hulet said he has a weird sense of humour and can make up a lot of ideas for cartoons in his head. He also gets ideas from reading the newspaper, watching television and from listening and talking to people.

"A lot of times I get ideas when I'm in the shower, which is a bad thing because you can't exactly write it down, and you can't take a tape recorder in there," he said.

Ideas also come to him while he is driving, so he takes a tape recorder with him just in case he gets an idea.

He researches his ideas, depending on what the story will be.

"I do have one cartoon strip where I plan to have (the characters) travelling through time," he said. "I would certainly do some research for that."

Hulet said he does not have a particular drawing style and he does not study anybody else's drawings.

"I think my drawing style is kind of unique," he added.

Spoke has published about 11 of his cartoons since September and the response from his classmates about those cartoons has been nothing but positive.

Hulet said he definitely wants to have cartoons published in a larger newspaper, like the Kitchener Record, some day, and having his cartoons published in Spoke is a great learning experience in the meantime.

"I've never done editorial cartoons before this year, and the response I've been getting has really been helpful," he added.

Hulet's favourite cartoon is Robot Man, which is published in the London Free Press every Sunday.

His cartoonist role models are Gary Larson, creator of The Far Side, Jim Meddick, creator of Robot Man, and when he was younger, he liked Jim Davis, creator of Garfield.

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Entertainment

Rice's book leaves fans feeling robbed

By Michelle Goring

Merrick, the latest novel by Anne Rice, is a powerful story combining witchcraft, vampires and the occult.

The novel begins with Merrick, a young and powerful voodoo witch who is a lifelong member of the ancient order of the Talamasca (a watcher group with members stationed all over the world to document paranormal activities), talking with the fledgling vampire David Talbot.

David, once a member of the Talamasca and an old friend of Merrick, comes to her on behalf of his vampire companion Louis de Pointe de Lac. Louis, tormented with guilt over the death of his beloved child vampire Claudia, wants Merrick to raise Claudia's vampire spirit so he can ask her forgiveness and lay her wandering spirit to rest.

Merrick agrees to help Louis and the trio sets out to perform the dark and disturbing ritual that will summon the spirit of Claudia. When the invoked spirit appears, it proves to be more than any of them can handle and Louis leaves feeling more desperate and guilty than ever before.

In a frenzy of guilt and passion, Louis returns to Merrick and performs the dark ritual that turns her into a creature of the night. Feeling even more guilt, Louis attempts a vampire suicide, which causes the vampire Lestat to awaken from a long, undisturbed slumber to console his old friend.

Although the novel includes characters from other Rice series, it is clearly written for those who have not read Rice novels before.

What ends up becoming the bulk of the novel is Merrick's drinking habits, her past with the Talamasca and references to her childhood exploits and dead relatives.

This unfortunately unbalances

the novel as the amount of time spent on Merrick and her background far outweighs the present day story. The time spent on the present day story takes up about a third of the novel and the climax of the novel, the ritual, is only a chapter long.

The vampire David Talbot narrates the story and is the obvious choice as he appears in both The Vampire Chronicles and the Mayfair Witches series. The Vampire Chronicles is a four book series which includes Interview With A Vampire, The Vampire Lestat, The Queen of the Damned and Tales of the Body Thief, in which Talbot becomes awestruck with Lestat and the two become fast friends. In the Mayfair Witches series (including the Witching Hour, Lasher and Taltos), David becomes friends with the Mayfair family of witches and documents their story.

His connection to the other series enables the linking of characters in the novel that would otherwise have seemed too deliberate.

The link to the Mayfair series is made in the first chapter through Merrick's ancestry. She is related to the New Orleans Mayfairs but has never had any direct contact with them. This proves to be disappointing for fans of the Mayfair series.

Rice does however include the beloved characters Louis, Lestat and Claudia from The Vampire Chronicles series.

Disappointingly, the characters that fans have grown to love appear in only a small portion of the novel leaving fans feeling robbed.

Overall, the story is well written with attention to detail, the trademark of Rice novels. However, if you are a fan hoping this novel will consist mainly of character development and evolving story lines from previous series, you will be sorely disappointed.

Poster bonanza at college

By Sanja Musa

For the second time this school year, Conestoga College students had an opportunity to see and purchase a variety of posters offered by Imaginus.

"Imaginus is a poster sale on wheels. We travel to colleges and universities across Canada," said Darryl Hoskins, one of the Imaginus representatives at the poster sale held on Jan. 10, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Imaginus held a poster sale for the first time at Conestoga College on Oct. 5 and Oct. 6, last year.

According to Hoskins, who has been a representative with Imaginus for about 12 years, the poster sale is a one-day event at this time of year because of the decrease in demand for posters during the winter semester.

"At the beginning of the school year, students buy the posters to put them in their dormitories, but in the wintertime sales drop considerably," Hoskins said.

There were approximately 1,500 posters for sale.

"You can't find such a wide variety of posters anywhere else. There is a poster for everyone," said Hoskins.

The posters varied from fine art to black and white photography, and the prices ranged from \$3 to \$30, depending on the location of the publisher and the quantity of a certain kind of poster.



Mike Clarke, a second-year architectural engineering student, looks at some of the posters offered for purchase in the college student lounge on Jan. 10.

(Photo by Sanja Musa)

According to Hoskins, about 80 per cent of the posters were in a price range of \$3 to \$9, about 10 per cent were priced at \$10 to \$15 and the remaining 10 per cent cost from \$20 to \$30.

Hoskins also noticed that Conestoga students are mostly interested in posters related to pop art, movies and music bands.

Besides the posters, Imaginus also offered items such as poster hangers as well as small and large sizes of poster frames.

Because of the large quantity of items for sale at the event, the Imaginus representatives needed help from students with advertising,

setting up the posters for sale and loading the truck with the leftover items at the end of the sale.

Two Imaginus representatives worked the sale and about 10 Conestoga students were hired to help.

For help with setting up the posters for sale and loading up the truck at the end of the day, students were paid \$11 an hour. Students were paid \$9 an hour for help with advertising.

Hoskins couldn't estimate the final profits from the sale.

"It is hard to estimate final profits because everyone comes at the last minute to look at the posters or to buy them," Hoskins said.

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Condors lose wild one

By Paul Kostal

Refereeing isn't supposed to determine the outcome of hockey games, but in a game where there were 114 minutes in penalties, it's bound to have had an effect.

The Conestoga Condors and the Cambrian Golden Shield from Sudbury played 60 minutes of entertaining, back-and-forth hockey at the recreation centre, Jan. 13, despite playing under the burden of punishing refereeing.

Conestoga played one of their best games of the season, but still came up a little bit short in the end, losing 4-3 to the second-ranked team in the league, in front of 75 fans.

Goaltender Andy Hopkins was especially good, stopping 32 shots in the loss. Conestoga was outshot 36-34.

Conestoga opened the scoring early in the first when Shane Kin banged in a shot from in close.

Cambrian answered less than a minute later when Wayne Theriault, the league's leading scorer, tied it with an incredible individual effort.

Theriault cut into the Conestoga end, carrying the puck from centre, and worked his way around the Conestoga defenceman, before beating Hopkins.

Conestoga scored again midway through the first, to take their second lead of the game, when Matt Turcotte finished a tic-tac-toe play with Trevor Shody and Mike Kostera.

The referee then began to insinuate himself into the game, calling



Cambrian forward Wayne Theriault, (15), celebrates a second-period goal leaving several Condors shocked.

(Photo by Paul Kostal)

more than an hour's worth of penalty minutes, mostly on borderline calls, in the last seven minutes of the first period.

Conestoga head coach Ken Galerno said it was the "worst refereed game I have seen in 20-25 years."

The second period opened with several players from both teams in the box, and neither team was able to generate any sustained attack in the second period as the referee continued to call penalty after penalty.

Cambrian tied it five minutes in when Darryl Sckorchinse beat Hopkins from Shawn Denomme and Theriault.

Cambrian scored again later in the frame, to take their first lead of the game, when Denomme took a feed from Sckorchinse and beat Hopkins from a sharp angle inside the face-off circle.

The period ended with a bit of a scrum behind the Cambrian goalie

and, of course, the referee calling more penalties.

Perhaps someone stole his whistle during the second intermission because Phil Olinski only called one penalty in the third period, appearing to be finally willing to let the players determine the outcome of the game.

Cambrian put it out of reach for the Condors early in the third when Theriault beat Hopkins from the slot with a soft shot for his third point of the day.

Turcotte scored his second goal of the game for the home team a couple of minutes later, but that was as close as they would come.

Galerno praised the efforts of his players in the loss, saying they played better than Cambrian.

"The Cambrian coaches told me they were getting on the bus and getting out of town before we call the police, because they stole one here today," he said.

Soccer teams open new year with losses

By Paul Kostal

Both the men's and women's indoor soccer teams were in action during the first week of classes this semester.

The women's team played one of their best games of the season Jan. 9. Unfortunately the end result was still the same. Conestoga lost 1-0 to the Spirit 83s.

The only goal of the game went to Kaleena Yeung.

The Condors' record falls to 0-9 on the season, but still, the game had to be seen as an improvement.

After Tuesday's game the goals-for-goals-against ratio was 4-57 for the Condors, meaning the opposition was scoring nearly seven goals a game against Conestoga.

Any game where the opposition scores merely one goal has to be an improvement. Now if only the forwards could start putting more balls in the net.

The women's team starts tournament play at the end of the month with an invitational tournament in Kingston, and they need to improve before then.

The men's team didn't fair much better in their inaugural

game of the new millennium losing 7-5 to rival Pro Soccer who has beaten them twice now this season.

The women's team played one of the best games of the season Jan 9. Unfortunately, Conestoga lost 1-0 to Spirit 83s.

The loss drops the men's record to 4-5 on the season.

Jeff Viveiros scored two goals for the Condors, giving him five

in his past two games. Ilias Stsatsas, Robert Dietz and Sheref Sherifali added singles for the Condors.

Sherifali also had the only penalty of the game.

Kevin Larocque and Douglas Pelley both scored twice for Pro Soccer, while Hanibal Sargiszaeh, Garfield Suepal and Afrim Ficic added singles for Pro Soccer.

The men's team will also be taking part in the invitational tournament in Kingston at the end of January.

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